Application No. 09/783,996
Reply to Office Action of June 30, 2003

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the paragraph at page 3, lines 9-16:

But in practice, because it is required to make the light-emitted from the solid immersion lens 102 converge on a not shown optical storage medium, the light-emitted from the objective lens 101 is made to refract more or less on the spherical surface of the solid immersion lens 102, as shown in Fig. 11B, so the actual convergence point is positioned on the optical storage medium.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figs. 11A and 11B are views Fig. 11A is a view for explaining a near-field optical system using a solid immersion lens.

Please delete the paragraph at page 21, lines 7-15:

Here, the objective lens 2-corresponds to the objective lens in the present invention, the solid immersion lens 3 corresponds to the solid immersion lens 3 in the present invention, the lens holder 4 corresponds to the holding means in the present invention, the tracking actuator 5-corresponds to the second actuator in claim 4, etc., and the focus actuator 8 corresponds to the actuator in claim 1 and the first actuator in claim 4 etc.

Please delete the paragraph at page 39, lines 14-21:

Based on the output signal SA to SD amplified by the amplifying circuit (head amplifier) 18, the focus error detecting circuit 29 calculates the following equation (8) to generate a focus error signal FE by the astigmatism method. After that, the focus error signal FE is supplied to the phase compensation circuit 16 and the CPU 22.

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FE-SA-SB+SC-SD (8)

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 48, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 10, the optical storage and reproduction apparatus 200 comprises an optical pick-up 12 wherein the optical head 1 is mounted, a voltage controlled oscillator (VCO) 13, a reference voltage controlled oscillator (RVCO) 14, a comparison circuit 15, phase compensation circuits 16 and 20, amplifying circuits 17, 18, and 21, a tracking matrix circuit 19, a central processing unit (CPU) 22, a semiconductor laser driving circuit 25, a motor driving circuit 26, an information detection circuit 27, a focus error detecting circuit 29, a Z-direction moving motor 150, and a Y-direction moving motor 151.

Please delete the paragraph at page 49, lines 6-12:

Here, the focus actuator 8 shown in Fig. 1 corresponds to the first actuator in claim 10, the tracking actuator 5 corresponds to the second actuator in claim 10, the Z-direction moving motor 150 corresponds to the second moving means in claim 10, and the Y-direction moving motor 151 corresponds to the first moving means in claim 10.

Please amend the Abstract at Page 74, lines 1-16 as follows: